



[Handwritten signature]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **HIDAKA, Haretaro et al.**

Group Art Unit: 1725

Serial No.: 10/058,223

Examiner: **STONER, Kiley Shawn**

Filed: **January 29, 2002**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 2225

**FOR: INTEGRATED PIPING PLATE, MACHINING METHOD FOR SAME,
MACHINING APPARATUS FOR SAME, AND MACHINING EQUIPMENT FOR
SAME**

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.111

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 13, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated **July 22, 2004**, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.

10/25/2004 CQUEEN 00000004 012340 10050223

01 FC:1201

88.00 DA

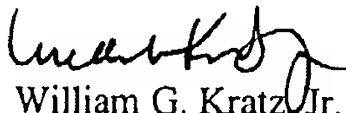
In view of the present amendment to the claims and the above remarks, Applicants believe that claims 5-7, 9, 10, 12, 13 and 48-50 are patentable and early allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,
HANSON & BROOKS, LLP



William G. Kratz, Jr.
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 22,631

WGK/nrp
Atty. Docket No. 020096
Suite 1000
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



23850

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE